IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with s̶t̶r̶i̶k̶e̶t̶h̶r̶o̶u̶g̶h̶. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1-6.   (canceled)

7.   (currently amended) <u>An object managing apparatus managing an object used by an application program including one or more components, in a component base that is a base for configuring and executing the application program and provides each component with an external storage access function, comprising:</u>

<u>a selecting device selecting an object managing method suitable for a type of a component, from a plurality of object managing methods that are prepared in advance, each object managing method representing an algorithm for managing an object used in the apparatus and including an accessing method to data stored in an external storage; and</u>

<u>a switching device switching in the component base, at least one of an object caching part that caches a persistence object corresponding to data of the external storage using a specified algorithm and an object persistence processing part performing conversion between the data of the external storage and the persistence object, with a part corresponding to the selected object managing method</u>T̶h̶e̶ ̶o̶b̶j̶e̶c̶t̶ ̶m̶a̶n̶a̶g̶i̶n̶g̶ ̶a̶p̶p̶a̶r̶a̶t̶u̶s̶ ̶a̶c̶c̶o̶r̶d̶i̶n̶g̶ ̶t̶o̶ ̶c̶l̶a̶i̶m̶ ̶1̶, <u>and</u>

wherein the switching device has a cache table caching an object for each transaction, and uses an object caching part that registers an object in the cache table after a transaction starts, and clears the cache table when the transaction terminates, as the part corresponding to the selected object managing method.

8.   (currently amended) <u>An object managing apparatus managing an object used by an application program including one or more components, in a component base that is a base for configuring and executing the application program and provides each component with an external storage access function, comprising:</u>

<u>a selecting device selecting an object managing method suitable for a type of a component, from a plurality of object managing methods that are prepared in advance, each object managing method representing an algorithm for managing an object used in the</u>

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apparatus and including an accessing method to data stored in an external storage; and

a switching device switching in the component base, at least one of an object caching part that caches a persistence object corresponding to data of the external storage using a specified algorithm and an object persistence processing part performing conversion between the data of the external storage and the persistence object, with a part corresponding to the selected object managing method~~The object managing apparatus according to claim 1~~, and

wherein the switching apparatus has a cache table common to all transactions, and uses an object caching part which does not clear the cache table but makes the other transaction use an object on the cache table when one transaction terminates, as the part corresponding to the selected object managing method.

9.   (currently amended) An object managing apparatus managing an object used by an application program including one or more components, in a component base that is a base for configuring and executing the application program and provides each component with an external storage access function, comprising:

a selecting device selecting an object managing method suitable for a type of a component, from a plurality of object managing methods that are prepared in advance, each object managing method representing an algorithm for managing an object used in the apparatus and including an accessing method to data stored in an external storage; and

a switching device switching in the component base, at least one of an object caching part that caches a persistence object corresponding to data of the external storage using a specified algorithm and an object persistence processing part performing conversion between the data of the external storage and the persistence object, with a part corresponding to the selected object managing method~~The object managing apparatus according to claim 1~~, and

wherein the switching device uses an object caching part that writes data of an object being used by the application program in the external storage, and sets next data to the object being used, thereby returning the data to the application program when the application program requests acquisition of an object to be processed, as the part corresponding to the selected object managing method.

10-18. (canceled)

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